



DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

We have approximately 1,900 team members responsible for the stewardship of \$2.47 billion in taxpayer funding.



What we do

Mission: To promote health and safety through prevention, collaboration, education, innovation and response.

Vision: Optimal health and safety for all Missourians, in all communities, for life.

Our core services

- shield icon Disease and injury prevention
- shield icon Emergency preparedness and response
- shield icon Food and nutrition services
- shield icon Foundational public health services
- shield icon Health, animal and environmental testing
- shield icon Maternal and child health services
- shield icon Regulation enforcement and licensure
- shield icon Senior and disability support and protection
- shield icon Vital records and statistics

Strategic Priorities

- shield icon Invest in innovation to modernize infrastructure
- shield icon Re-envision and strengthen the workforce
- shield icon Build new and strengthen existing partnerships
- shield icon Clearly and consistently communicate to educate and build trust
- shield icon Resolve access issues for underserved areas and populations

Legislative Inquiries:

Email: info@health.mo.gov

Phone: (573) 751-6003

Visit us online at
Health.Mo.Gov



WHO WE ARE

Our team is organized into six divisions in addition to the department Director's Office.

Director's Office

The DHSS Director's Office provides leadership and coordination across the department and articulates the department's vision and goals.



SARAH WILLSON

Director



RICHARD MOORE

Deputy Director

Specialized Services

In addition to the Director's Office, several teams and individuals provide specialized support to team members across the department.

- ◆ Chief Medical Officer
- ◆ Grants Transformation Unit
- ◆ Health Policy Director
- ◆ Office of Emergency Coordination
- ◆ Office of General Counsel
- ◆ Office of Human Resources
- ◆ Office of Legislative Affairs
- ◆ Office of Performance Management
- ◆ Office of Special Investigations
- ◆ Office of Public Information

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Division of Administration

Amy Blankenship
Interim Division Director

Responsible for budget, accounting, expense control, procurement, grants, contracts and other general services.



Division of Cannabis Regulation

Amy Moore
Division Director

Licenses and inspects comprehensive cannabis facilities for medical and adult-use, and issues patient identification cards.



Division of Community and Public Health

Lori Brenneke
Division Director

Manages vital records, Missouri WIC, maternal-child health, and programs that address chronic and emerging health issues.



Division of Regulation and Licensure

Steve Bollin
Division Director

Regulates long-term care and health care, background checks caretakers, and designates Trauma, Stroke and STEMI centers.



Division of Senior and Disability Services

Melanie Highland
Division Director

Serves seniors and disabled individuals by investigating abuse claims, connecting them to care, and advocating for their needs.



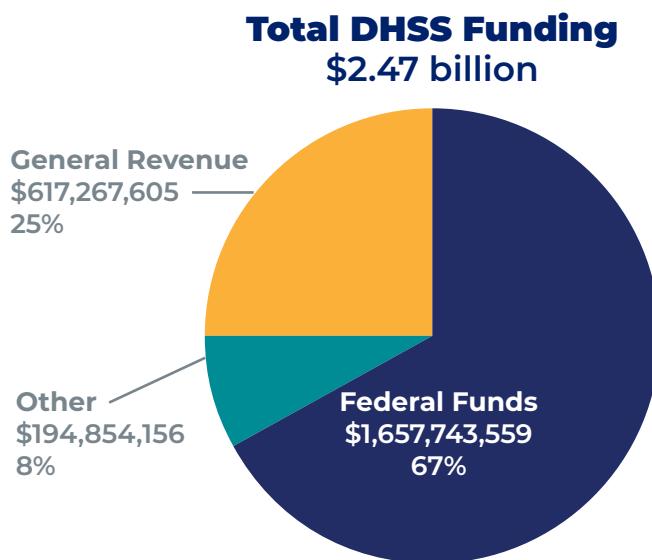
Missouri State Public Health Laboratory

Adam Perkins
Division Director

Performs food, environmental and health testing, and protects Missourians from biological and chemical threats.

HOW WE DELIVER SERVICES

Funding requests are supportive of the strategic goals that are most impactful to the Citizens of Missouri.



The FY26 DHSS Governor's Recommended budget for DHSS is \$2.47 billion. The majority of funding comes from federal resources with the largest amount of general revenue for Medicaid Home and Community Based Services. Much of the remaining GR is required for match on the federal funds.

Board of Health and Senior Services (RSMo. Section 192.014)

The Board of Health and Senior Services began operating again in November 2022. State law stipulates the Board advise DHSS on rules & regulations, budget, and planning & operation. The board is comprised of nine members that are Governor appointed and Senate confirmed.

Local Public Health Agencies

DHSS contracts with 115 LPHAs to improve public health.

Missouri's Foundational Public Health Services

Missouri's FPHS model describes a minimum set of measurable capabilities under each area of expertise that are truly essential in every Missouri community. Areas of expertise include disease and injury prevention, environmental health, linkage to care, and maternal, child and family health.

Area Agencies on Aging

DHSS contracts with 10 AAAs to improve the lives of older adults.

HOW WE BUDGET

Our funding streams are very diverse, encompassing various initiatives with specific requirements.



Division of Community and Public Health

- **CHIP Program CTC (\$2,687,866)** - DHSS receives funding from the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) to purchase immunizations that are administered to children enrolled in CHIP and is expected to grow due to an increase in CHIP population. 🚨
- **Extended Women's Health CTC (\$545,028)** - This NDI requests funds to support the ongoing operations of the Extended Women's Health program, which will also include appropriations for family planning and family planning-related services, pap tests and pelvic exams, pregnancy testing, sexually transmitted disease testing/treatment and follow-up services ordered. 🚨
- **SRAE Grant Increase (\$70,000)** - Increasing the federal appropriation authority to accept the Centers for Disease Control grant funds to expand and enhance Legionella prevention, investigation, and responses. DHSS will use data to create, promote, and integrate data collection, visualization and communication tools, outreach campaigns and educational resources to improve efforts by the Department.
- **Preventative Health and Health Services Grant CTC (\$649,081)** - PHHS funds are required to be utilized to address unique public health needs with innovative, community-driven methods to address emerging health gaps, support local programs to achieve healthy communities and establish data and surveillance systems to monitor health status. These additional funds will support current operations, expand programs, such as the Worksite Wellness programs, support administrative functions required by the grant and enhance the food safety program to collect data and manage a platform to monitor and prevent food borne illnesses. 🚨
- **ARPA Authority (\$823,518)** - Numerous grants have been awarded to DHSS to support critical public health initiatives, track the presence of SARS-CoV-2 in wastewater samples nationwide, increase SARS-CoV-2 sequencing, strengthen HAI/AR Program (SHARP) to support a broad range of healthcare infection prevention and control activities to detect, monitor, mitigate and prevent the spread of SARS-CoV-2 in health care settings. 🚨
- **Data Modernization and Interoperability (DMI) Staffing Increase (\$76,343)** - This request is to reclassify two positions that were previously responsible for manually entering every lab result or disease record received through paper communication directly into DHSS' disease surveillance systems. 🚨
- **Nutrition Specialist Staffing (\$238,505)** - This request is for staffing to ensure program continuity and compliance with the new federal regulations, which significantly increased the amount of staff time needed to prepare, conduct the review onsite and complete the monitoring process, of the USDA funded Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). 🚨
- **Adult Use SUD Grants (\$20,794,885)** - Funding provided from the Veterans, Health, and Community Reinvestment Fund to DHSS with the purpose of providing grants to agencies and not-for-profits to increase access to evidence-based, low-barrier drug addiction treatment prioritizing medically proven treatment and overdose prevention and reversal methods and public or private treatment options with an emphasis on reintegrating recipients into their local communities, to support overdose prevention education, and to support job placement, housing, and counseling for those with substance use disorders.
- **Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) Expansion (\$711,896)** - The EPA manages several large sites impacted with lead contamination from historical mining and associated operations. Remedy for these sites also includes health education and institutional controls, which is being implemented through cooperative agreements between DHSS and Local Public Health Agencies (LPHAs). 🚨

HOW WE BUDGET

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- **Ventilator Maintenance (\$469,070)** - The ventilator cache obtained by DHSS during the Public Health Emergency (PHE) and must be maintained annually according to manufacturer's specifications. If they are not maintained, they will not meet hospital or CMS regulatory standards and cannot be deployed or used to support patients in regulated facilities.
- **Environmental Health Capacity Grant (\$100,000)** - This NDI is requesting increased federal appropriation authority to accept the Centers for Disease Control, Environmental Health Capacity (EHC) grant funds to expand and enhance Legionella prevention, investigation, and response. DHSS staff conduct Legionella investigations at all regulated hospitals, long-term care, and lodging facilities.
- **Nurse Loan Funds Transfer (\$100,000)** - DHSS collects, on average, \$68,000 per year from loan defaults, so DHSS is requesting ongoing appropriation authority to transfer funds received to the Missouri Board of Nursing for use in their nurse professional development activities.
- **Justice for Survivors Fund Auth (\$100,000)** - This NDI is requesting spending authority from the fund created by the Justice for Survivors Act (192.2520, RSMo.) in order to collect and expend monies from training fees, as allowed under the statute. 192.2520.10(2), RSMo., establishes the Justice for Survivors Telehealth Network Fund and provides that monies be used solely by the department to develop and maintain the Network and the training offered by the Network. During the 2024 Legislative Session, DHSS received federal authority to create and implement in-classroom and clinical setting training courses for forensic nurses. Through these federal funds nurses in Missouri will be provided the training free of charge, but DHSS seeks to offer this training to other medical professionals (OBGYNs, Physician Assistants, etc.) and non-Missouri residents for a fee. The collected funds will then be used to support, enhance, and expand training for forensic nurses. This is essential for continued support for the forensic nurse workforce in Missouri as it will reduce reliance on other funding sources to ensure trained professionals will be more readily available to provide forensic exams.

State Public Health Laboratory

- **Other Funds Authority (\$643,712)** - This request seeks appropriation authority from the Missouri Public Health Services Fund to support the Missouri State Public Health Lab's newborn screening program and Division of Community and Public Health's Onsite Wastewater Program.

Division of Cannabis Regulation

- **Adult Use Revenue Transfer (\$23,362,728)** - This NDI is to establish an additional transfer amount from the Veterans, Health, and Community Reinvestment Fund to the Missouri Veterans Commission, Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services for grants and the Missouri Public Defender after the Department has carried out its responsibilities in implementing Article XIV.

Indicates that a one-page summary is available.



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Division of Regulation and Licensure

- **Prescribed Pediatric Extended Care (PPEC) Program (\$115,504):** - Beginning August 28, 2025, childcare facilities licensed by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) that wish to operate as a Prescribed Pediatric Extended Care (PPEC) facility are required to obtain a license issued by the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) (Section 192.2552, RSMo.). DHSS is tasked with licensing and inspecting PPEC facilities, along with promulgation of rules and regulations to establish standards of service and care (Section 192.2554.1, RSMo.). 
- **Central Office Medical Review Unit (COMRU) Service Enhancement (\$365,000):** - The Division of Regulation and Licensure, Central Office Medical Review Unit (COMRU) is experiencing a 28% increase in the volume of level of care applications and Pre-Admission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR). Failure to timely review and approve applications results in payment delays to long-term care facilities, creating a financial hardship on facilities that are already having trouble in making ends meet and paying their employees and vendors timely. 
- **Board of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Database Replacement (\$1,700,000)** - Funds for database, software maintenance and technical support. DHSS receives over 35,000 applications and issues registrations to 27 different types of licensees that issue prescriptions. The database used for license tracking is 11 years old, a new database with an online application, click and pay and certificates printed from website is necessary for continuity of operations.
- **Supplemental Health Care Services Agency (SHCSA) Program Database (\$100,000)** - This request is not for new funding. This NDI request to have funds reappropriated in Fiscal Year 2026 that was appropriated in Fiscal Year 2025 as one-time funds to the Division of Regulation and Licensure (DRL) Supplemental Health Care Services Agency (SHCSA) to secure a reliable electronic program database to meet all program expectations. Due to the unknown future of the department's contract with ESRI and Qualtrics not meeting platform expectations, the Department is asking to carry over this funding to Fiscal Year 2026.

Division of Senior and Disability Services

- **Older American's Act Authority (\$4,000,000)** - To allow the AAAs to expend carryover funding currently awarded from the US Department of Health and Human Services in a timely manner and to avoid returning grant dollars dedicated for senior services back to the federal government, DHSS requests an NDI of \$4M federal funds. This NDI will also ensure all AAA invoices to DHSS for reimbursement are paid timely and do not cause a disruption to services for seniors.
- **Medicaid HCBS CTC (\$97,732,262)** - This NDI funding is requested to continue providing Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) for Medicaid participants receiving long-term care in their homes and communities.

 Indicates that a one-page summary is available.

DHSS State Fiscal Year 2026 Organizational Finances (All Funds)	Amount	Percent	FTE
Director's Office	\$1,060,932	0.04%	11.00
Division of Administration	\$16,399,222	0.66%	82.35
Department Operational Services	\$11,389,772	0.46%	82.35
Health Initiatives Transfer	\$759,624	0.03%	0.00
Debt Offset Escrow	\$50,000	0.00%	0.00
Refunds	\$401,200	0.02%	0.00
Federal Grants and Donated Funds	\$3,598,626	0.15%	0.00
Medical Preceptor Transfer	\$200,000	0.01%	0.00
Division of Community and Public Health	\$755,090,110	30.57%	581.17
Cancer and Chronic Disease Control	\$10,141,387	0.41%	21.60
Communicable Disease Control & Prevention	\$11,065,688	0.45%	40.56
Community Health & Wellness Initiatives	\$16,391,543	0.66%	21.16
SUD Grants Operations	\$62,785	0.00%	1.00
Tobacco Addiction Prevention	\$300,000	0.01%	0.00
Tobacco Cessation	\$200,000	0.01%	0.00
Community and Public Health Admin	\$5,814,290	0.24%	68.40
Emergency Preparedness & Response	\$17,137,694	0.69%	36.76
Environmental Public Health	\$10,892,200	0.44%	76.66
Genetics & Newborn Health Services	\$4,772,186	0.19%	19.20
Health Informatics & Epidemiology	\$6,714,278	0.27%	55.16
HIV, STI, and Hepatitis Services	\$109,992,359	4.45%	50.50
Local Public Health Agency Support	\$18,877,192	0.76%	3.84
Nutrition Services	\$215,550,645	8.73%	68.45
Rural Health & Primary Care Initiatives	\$16,284,111	0.66%	8.06
Oral Health Services & Initiatives	\$3,952,425	0.16%	9.43
Minority Health Initiatives	\$494,787	0.02%	4.48
Women's Health & Wellness	\$21,875,180	0.89%	17.51
Fetal Infant Mortality Review	\$1,831,926	0.07%	0.00
Vital Records Certification & Issuance	\$3,315,280	0.13%	28.40
COVID Response & ARPA Initiatives	\$279,424,154	11.31%	50.00
State Public Health Laboratory	\$19,047,241	0.77%	113.51

DHSS State Fiscal Year 2026 Organizational Finances (All Funds)	Amount	Percent	FTE
Division of Senior and Disability Services	\$1,515,132,134	61.34%	624.69
Senior & Disability Services Program Operations	\$38,356,005	1.55%	624.69
DSDS Non-Medicaid Programs	\$8,325,554	0.34%	0.00
Medicaid HCBS/Consumer Directed Services	\$721,869,457	29.23%	0.00
Medicaid Home & Community Based Services	\$655,858,136	26.55%	0.00
Services Enhancements	\$0	0.00%	0.00
Senior Growth & Development Transfer	\$10,618,433	0.43%	0.00
Area Agencies on Aging Contracts ^ *	\$77,804,549	3.15%	0.00
Alzheimer Grants	\$1,700,000	0.07%	0.00
Senior Independent Living Programs	\$400,000	0.02%	0.00
Naturalization Assistance	\$200,000	0.01%	0.00
Division of Regulation and Licensure	\$45,752,312	1.85%	394.03
Regulation & Licensure Program Operations	43,471,459	1.76%	387.03
Time Critical Diagnosis	820,927	0.03%	7.00
Long Term Regulation (QIPMO)	\$1,459,926	0.06%	0.00
Division of Cannabis Regulation	\$117,383,368	4.75%	156.50
Adult Use Cannabis	\$14,792,924	0.60%	133.00
Adult Use - SUD Grant	\$25,318,179	1.03%	0.00
SUD Grant to DMH	\$150,000	0.01%	0.00
Youth Services Liaisons	\$1,825,325	0.07%	0.00
Peer Respite Services	\$1,500,000	0.06%	0.00
Alcohol Abuse Prevention	\$500,000	0.02%	0.00
SUD Grants for Judicial	\$250,000	0.01%	0.00
Drug Abuse Resistance Education	\$350,000	0.01%	0.00
Medical Marijuana	\$9,038,355	0.37%	23.50
Adult Use Cannabis Transfer	\$50,658,585	2.05%	0.00
DHSS Vets Commission Transfer	\$13,000,000	0.53%	0.00
DHSS Legal Expense	\$1	0.00%	0.00
Total	\$2,469,865,320	100%	1,963.25
General Revenue	\$617,267,605	24.99%	656.93
Federal Funds	\$1,377,563,162	55.77%	953.31
ARPA Federal Funds^	\$79,309,113	3.21%	12.00
COVID-19 Federal Funds*	\$200,871,284	8.13%	38.00
EFMAP Federal Funds #	\$0	0.00%	0.00
Other Funds	\$194,854,156	7.89%	303.01